

BRA
1946

TO: Paul Reavis & Bill Barbato
FROM: David Baker *DK*
DATE: April 5, 1990
✓ SUBJECT: Shawmut Ave Lighting

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The Shawmut Ave Neighborhood Association has submitted a letter to me indicating their preference for the type of lighting for Shawmut Ave. Their choice is to either leave the existing lights there or replace them with the rectilinear type. Ballots were sent to all members of the association by John de Redon, President. (see attached letter to me and ballots).

This completes step #1 of my memo of March 15, 1990 to Barbato regarding this matter. (see said memo attached)

NEXT STEP

Our Staff must decide whether to recommend retaining the existing lights or replacing them with rectilinear type before we petition the Historic Commission for something else other than the "Acorn" type. We need this as soon as possible because I must submit an application for alternative lights to the Historic Commission before April 18, 1990 so the Commission may schedule it on their May 1, 1990 meeting for a decision.

For the application I need by April 16th:


1. Site plans where the lights are to be located and showing all improvements ^{as} much as possible.

MY RECOMMENDATION

Because most of Shawmut Ave is rectilinear lighting, we should recommend rectilinear. Please call me for your comments.

cc: Ann Johnson
Tom O'Malley
Owen Donnelly
Maria Faria

db1.30

TO: Bill Barbato
FROM: David Baker 
DATE: March 15, 1990
SUBJECT: Shawmut Ave, South End

I'm trying to resolve the issue of the type of lighting for Shawmut Ave the community is concerned about. They do not want acorn lights on Shawmut Ave. The problem is the Historic Commission has voted that all new lighting in the South End Historic District be acorn lights. I have taken the following steps.

1. Because it is unclear during the past two years what the Shawmut Ave. Neighborhood Association really wants, (Sept 27, 1988 letter), I have asked John de Redon to meet with his group and send another letter with the majority members indicating their 1st and 2nd choice they would like for Shawmut Ave.
2. I talked to Joe Banks of the City's Lighting Division and he indicated that if the Historic Commission voted to waive the acorn lights for an alternative, then his Division would consider an alternative.
3. I talked to Tom Boland of the City's Historic Commission and he indicated the Commission would review any proposal and it could be possible the Commission would allow an alternative type of lighting. The Commission meets the 1st Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is April 3rd.
4. Paul Reavis has indicated that if the Lighting Division approves alternative lights, he will approve.

City Councilor, Jim Kelly, is involved with this improvement and it would be wise to resolve this problem and see if we can arrive at some kind of compromise.

After you read this memo, please call me to discuss this problem so that we're both going the same direction.

Thank you.

cc: Paul Reavis
Tom O'Malley
Ann Johnson
Owen Donnelly
Maria Faria

SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

John deRedon • Diane Choueiri • Rolf Fuessler
President • Vice President • Treasurer

April 2, 1990

Mr. David Baker
Project Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
1 City Hall Sq.
Boston, Ma. 02201

RE: SHAWMUT AVE. SIDEWALK RENOVATION

Dear Mr. Baker:

Relative to the above project and our many conversations pertaining to lighting involved with this project:

1. It should be made clear for the record that we never requested any new lighting for our area. During the long process of finally having funds appropriated for new sidewalks (100% of the thanks goes to City Councillor James Kelly who was entirely responsible for "pushing" the BRA into doing this), designs were presented to the neighborhood and we were informed that "new lighting" was a part of the package. As we were trying to save the city money by only requesting new sidewalks, this came as a shock to all of us. Most groups ask for more - we asked for less.

2. The BRA (approximately two years ago) asked for our choices relative to sidewalks and lighting, and in our letter dated September of 1988, the Association members voted for concrete sidewalks with brick accents, and, as lighting was now part of the package, voted that the rectilinear style of lighting be placed on corners with the "acorn" style in between. This mix of lighting we are now told is not possible, although we would be interested to know the reasons why this cannot be done.

3. As per our discussions, another vote has been taken in as much as letters and "ballots" were sent to all members along with a stamped return envelope and a letter requested that immediate action be taken on the part of the member(s). Ballots returned are attached. As you can verify by the returns:

- 14 members are in favor of either retaining current lighting and/or replacing with the modernized type of rectilinear, and;
- 8 members are in favor of the "acorn" type.

In other words, approximately two-thirds of the members who returned the ballots are NOT in favor of the "acorn" type.

SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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April 2, 1990

Mr. David Baker
Page two

We pride ourselves in our neighborhood as to the extremely low crime rate and would certainly like to continue to live in this manner. The general consensus among the members voting against the "acorn" type of lighting is that (and it is factual), 100% "acorn" lighting would greatly reduce visibility and, therefore, increase the crime rate. Further - upper Shawmut Avenue has the rectilinear style of lighting, as does both Tremont St. and Columbus Ave., therefore, consistency seems logical.

It is hard to believe that the South End Historical Society does not recognize this area of Shawmut Ave. as "commercial" in as much as there are 15 or more commercial establishments in the area running between Pelham St. and Dwight St., including two bar-room/taverns which are heavily patronized, but not by the neighbors.

Hopefully you will be able to honor our wishes and we would look forward to hearing from you. It is our understanding from Mr. Tom Boland of the Landmark Commission (City Hall) that if the new proposal for lighting can be submitted to them by April 18th, it will be presented at the May 1st meeting. At that point, a decision can be made and the project underway. (We would hate to think that we would have to wait yet another year for the project to be completed - the money has been sitting there since 1988.)

We thank-you in advance for your efforts.

Sincerely,

John E. de Redon
Diane Choueiri
Rolf Fuessler

John E. de Redon, President
Diane Choueiri, Vice-President
Rolf Fuessler, Sec./Treasurer

cc. City Councillor J. Kelly
Tom Boland

288 SHAWMUT AVENUE • BOSTON, MA 02118
482-1787/262-3964

SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWMUT AVENUE AND A MEMBER OF THE SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING TYPE OF LIGHTING ON SHAWMUT AVENUE:

✓ Current Lighting Retained, or;

✓ If not possible to retain current lighting, replace with modernized version of same, such as on Tremont Street.

 "Acorn" variety of Lighting. (one can be seen on the corner of Washington St. and E. Berkley (Dover) St.

Member Signature: Theresa Nassif

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: 2-20-90

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AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWMUT AVENUE AND A MEMBER OF THE SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING TYPE OF LIGHTING ON SHAWMUT AVENUE:

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Member Signature: _____

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: _____

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AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWMUT AVENUE AND A MEMBER OF THE SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING TYPE OF LIGHTING ON SHAWMUT AVENUE:

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Member Signature:

Assaf Choueiri

Co-Member Signature:

Diane Choueiri

DATE:

3/21/90

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President • Vice President • Treasurer

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Member Signature: _____

Dr. HANS GUGGENHEIM, 318 SHAWMUT Ave

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: _____

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☐

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Member Signature: _____

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: _____

3/22/90

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AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWMUT AVENUE AND A MEMBER OF THE
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E. Berkley (Dover) St.

Member Signature: _____

George J. Anastos

Co-Member Signature: _____

Carol Anastos

DATE: _____

3-20-90

SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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 "Acorn" variety of Lighting. (one can be seen on the corner of Washington St. and E. Berkley (Dover) St.

Member Signature: DeK Lee

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: 3/20/90

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AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWMUT AVENUE AND A MEMBER OF THE SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING TYPE OF LIGHTING ON SHAWMUT AVENUE:

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Member Signature: _____

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: _____

3/21/90

suggested:
Please note state of steps
leave intact when new
sidewalks happen.

*Good job
on this project.*

SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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President • Vice President • Treasurer

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Member Signature: _____

Pauline Riley

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: _____

3/20/90

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AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWMUT AVENUE AND A MEMBER OF THE SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING TYPE OF LIGHTING ON SHAWMUT AVENUE:

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Member Signature: _____

Roger Stearns J.

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: _____

3/26/90

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Member Signature: _____

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: _____

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AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWMUT AVENUE AND A MEMBER OF THE SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING TYPE OF LIGHTING ON SHAWMUT AVENUE:

2 Current Lighting Retained, or;

2.5 If not possible to retain current lighting, replace with modernized version of same, such as on Tremont Street.

1 "Acorn" variety of Lighting. (one can be seen on the corner of Washington St. and E. Berkley (Dover) St.

Member Signature: Sharon K. H. H. H.

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: 21 March 1993

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Member Signature: Peter Chin

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: 3/20/90

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Member Signature: _____

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: _____

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AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWMUT AVENUE AND A MEMBER OF THE SHAWMUT AVE. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING TYPE OF LIGHTING ON SHAWMUT AVENUE:

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1

"Acorn" variety of Lighting. (one can be seen on the corner of Washington St. and E. Berkley (Dover) St.

Member Signature: _____

Co-Member Signature: _____

DATE: 25-MARCH-1990

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Co-Member Signature: _____

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